

# The Athenian Mercury:

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> 27 1693.

Quest. 1. **I**N what State was Nebuchadnezzar's Soul during his Banishment from men, as you find in the 4th. Chapter of Daniel, and the 25th. Verse.

Gentlemen, This very Question was sent you some few days since by the same hand, and you have either not receiv'd it, or have omitted the inserting of it: wherefore, Gentlemen, it is sent you once again, and you are desir'd to insert it as soon as conveniently you can, it being presum'd to be a Question of no little Importance, which will very much Oblige your Wellwisher.

Ans<sup>r</sup>. Truly we don't understand the Importance of, nor how a Man can be either the happier or wiser for it; but however to Oblige our Importunate Querist, all that can be known in this Case, is but guess and probability, and if he'll be pleas'd with that, We Answer, That 'tis more than barely probable, that the Soul of that unhappy Exemplary Prince, was as Rational, perhaps more, under the Brutal Figure, than when he was admiring his Palace, and contemplating his Power and Greatness; for it seems reasonable that God did leave him the use of his Reason, on purpose to reflect on his Sin and Debasement, and for Acts of Repentance, for then his Restoration would appear a greater Mercy and Favour to him, than if he had lain so long in a Dream, or been subject to the mean and Sensual Conceptions that are proper to the Souls of Beasts.

Learned Gentlemen,

Quest. 2. I first beg your Patience, then pardon for my Impertinence. My Father some 7 years since dyed, leaving 3 Children, my self, then the Age of 14, and 2 Sisters, one 16, the other about 12, to each plentiful Fortunes; my Mother in a little time marries my Eldest, I somewhat before being sent abroad, and ere my Youngest was full 13, was also very forward to Match her too, in order to which, takes her one Evening up stairs, with another Relation, and thus spoke to her: Child, I have something to ask of you, which you must not deny me as you expect my Blessing. To which the pretty innocent reply'd, If I don't do as you would have me, God won't bleis me? then says my Mother, You must marry Mr. T. W. at which the pretty Infant wept bitterly, saying, Not yet, I am not 13. let me be as big as my Sister: At which, the Relation standing by, reply'd, What should you marry her for, she's a meer Child; She must marry him, reply'd my Mother, but shan't Bed him these 2 Years. My Sister went down bitterly weeping, and so continued more or less for 3 Weeks, in which time she was most unhappily Married, he being then 36 Years of Age, she 13, one Month, and 5 days, and very little of her Age; however, to Bed they must go, tho' but for Ceremony, but by the sequel more there was, for in 8 days the poor Infant was in a sad and miserable Condition, and pityfully complaining to my Mother, She told her 'twas marrying so Young; and indeed at that time I believe she knew no better. But at length 'twas found out, and the Doctors were in the same Story; the Child as ignorant of her Ailment as Innocent, in some time she was well, but not 7 months, ere the Villain (her Husband) repeated the like, if possible, in a greater degree, and in a most pitiful condition the poor Woman long languishing lay, at length by 3 of the most Eminent Physicians, and 2 of the Ablest Chirurgeons, he was advis'd to save her. She still as ignorant as ever of the real Cause of her Sufferings, in order to which she was convey'd to a House, at her entrance, Lord, said the Woman, what pity 'tis, what will this World come to: At which the in-

jured Innocence reply'd, What do you mean Mrs. She explained her self, at which the Young Creature sounded away; but afterwards the design was put in execution, not with little Care, and God through his Infinite Mercy has perfectly restored her; when coming home, she then knew what had been the Occasion, and charged her Husband with the barbarity, who with something of Sorrow confessed it: But then all that he had to ask of her was, that for his, and in some measure her Reputation, she would only lye in the Bed with him, which out of much perswasion, but more Goodness, she did, and hath done for some years, she's not 20 yet, Beautiful, Well-bred, Ingenious, and the most Affable, Obliging Deportment I ever saw, beloved or envied of all, and yet this strange unheard of Monster, notwithstanding the almost insupportable sufferings, he has loaded her withall, even before people at Board can't be commonly civil to her. But by the way: My Mother for some 2 or 3 years after shew'd her self rather colder than formerly, and would have seem'd altogether ignorant of what was past; but in the Agony of Death, sent some miles for my Sister, weeping bitterly, took her in her Arms, begging pardon of God and her, and that all the Actions of her Life lay not so heavy as that one Act, and instantly expired.

Upon my Mothers Death I came from beyond Sea, and coming to my Sister, who I entirely lov'd from her Cradle, found her thus unequally matched, but in the midst of Plenty, yet that was not the Matter, I saw Beauty o'recast with a perpetual Melancholly; I urg'd the occasion, but could learn nothing more that it was her Temper. I frequently coming, always found her thus, or rather as if she had been ever weeping, but could learn no Reason; and thus was I uneasie for a Year and 7 months: but lately having an opportunity to walk somewhat remote from her House, I fell on the same Importunity, and most passionately pursued it. At length she brake forth in tears with this Relation; God is my Judge, &c. *Obstupui Steteruntq; Comes vox faucibus hefit*: Upon the word of a Christian, Gent. this is truth, as the Sufferings of my Saviour, through whose Merits I hope to be saved.

Gent. Now how to carry my self to this Inhumane Wretch without making it worse, my Blood rises when I see him: How to revenge the injuries of my unhappy Sister? which way to comfort and assist her in these her Afflictions? And whether if there be degrees of Damnation, may he not be hoped to be of the first Form, your Advice and Opinion is earnestly requested in your next?

Ans<sup>r</sup>. This is one of the most Villanous, basest Actions, that the Age (perhaps) can produce; and 'tis an unhappy Instance of the Mischiefs that follow such Marriages, where Parents force their Children against their Will, purely for the sake of Money and Titles. The Question annex'd to this Unhappy Relation has several parts: To the first, your Carriage to your Brother-in-law ought to be such, as that Profession you mention dictates to you, and not to entertain any thought that would suggest an Encroachment upon that Attribute of God's Justice, who claims the Prerogative of Vengeance to himself. The Comfort and Assistance which is proper to give your Sister in this Exigence, is to engage her in the strictest Course of Piety and Goodness, where she may find a Refuge from her Afflictions. This will be lasting, and certain, tho' for the present 'tis not impossible (if We have a clear Notion of the Matter of Fact) but that the Law would provide her a separate Maintenance and Release, if she desires it: As for the last Supposition, 'tis too uncharitable and unchristian to deserve an Answer.

The





The following Copy of Verses we have thought fit to insert without any Alterations; they are nothing near so polite and fine as they might be with some Amendments, but there are some better Thoughts in them than We commonly meet in more artificial and musical Measures.

May every one what does best please him choose,  
And with his unwise Choice himself abuse.  
The empty Worldling seeks evanid Joys,  
Placing his Happinels in foolish Toyes,  
And *Midas* like does add unto his Store,  
Making that Gold which was but Lead before;  
He gathers Wealth, but hides it under ground,  
Poor amongst Poor, no Poorer can be found;  
What Nature craves, himself he does deny,  
Full, untoucht Baggs of Gold before him lye,  
Choosing before the Gutts to fill the Eye.  
So does the Ass with Silver loaded go,  
But don't the Worth of this his Burden know,  
H' is still an Ass, and ever will be so.  
Others in Sports delight to pass away  
The grateful Hours of the Useful Day,  
They live in Pleasure and indulge their Ease,  
And with deceitful Toyes their Fancies please;  
In Revelling their chiefest time they spend,  
Remits in Danger, careless of their End;  
So when the Hook under the Bait does lye,  
The unwary Fish becomes deceiv'd thereby.  
Some Men in Villany consume their dayes,  
The Fortune of their Family to raise,  
Despising Virtues Nobler Path, that so  
Through Guile they might the more renowned grow;  
Counting those sordid Spirits who won't Cheat,  
Or Lye, or Swear, that so they may be great,  
Recounting pale-fac'd Death in every place,  
That they might transferr Glory on their Race;  
Thus *Agrippina* *Claudius Caesar* sent  
Unto the place of Endless Punishment,  
That she might place the Imperial Crown upon  
The ignobler Head of her Ungrateful Son;  
Though 'twas before foretold to her that he  
Her future cruel Murderer should be.  
Others again are over-press'd with Love,  
(The purer sort indeed comes from above)  
But this a Mongril Bastard one does prove;  
Which when it has with its false Guile oppress'd,  
Th' inward Recesses of a Mortals Breast,  
Bears an unbounded Power over all,  
The Noble Vertues down before it fall,  
Depriving him of his desir'd Content,  
Exceeding th' *Euceladian* Monument  
In Burning-heat, his Heart is set on Fire  
With the tormenting Flames of fierce Desire;  
Thus Free-men Slaves, thus Heroes Mad-men turn,  
Thus Men that healthy were with Feavers burn;  
Thus he that Rul'd the Prudent and the Brave  
Becomes th' Usurping Woman's feeble Slave.  
O the Bewitching Power of Females Eyes!  
Which Worldly Friendships hard knit Knots unties;  
Friend murder, Friend, (Friends do I call them? No;  
Th' are Friends if Saints and Devils be term'd so.)  
Come tell in order, Skilful *Athens*, then,  
Which be the Worst that thus are lov'd by Men?  
Thus wise *Minerva's* Off-spring you will please,  
Him who to admire the prudent ne're shall cease.

Yours at Command, &c.

A New Discovery of that unknown part of the Earth, call'd *Terra Incognita Australis*, or the Southern World. By *JAMES SADEUR* a French-man: Who being cast there by a Shipwrack, liv'd 35 Years in that Countrey. These *Memoirs* were thought so Curious that they were kept Secret in the Cabinet of a late great Minister of State, and never Publisht 'till now since his Death. Translated from the French Copy printed at Paris by Publick Authority. Licensed and Entered according to Order. Price Bound 1 s. Printed for *J. Duntton* at the Raven in the Poultry.

## Advertisements.

THE MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL in *Adams* Court in Broad-street, near the Royal Exchange, London, is now Open'd; where *Algebra*, *Geometry*, and all the usual parts of the Mathematicks will be Taught. By *R. Sault*, Math. Profess. Those that desire, may be Instructed abroad. Youth Boarded. The Undertaker Obliges himself to Teach by Letters in any place in England, with the same Expedition and Success as by a Personal Attendance, when once a Correspondence is settled.

At the Outropers-Office, the West End of the Royal Exchange in Cornhill, will be Exposed to Sale on Wednesday the 28th. and Thursday the 29th. of this instant June an extraordinary Collection of Paintings and Limnings of several Eminent Persons lately deceased, by way of Mining, a Method not hitherto used in England. The Sale beginning precisely at Three of the Clock each Afternoon, and to be sold by Day-light. Catalogues may be had at the place of Sale.

*Si quis Linguas, Latinam, Germanicam, Gallicam, Anglicanam, Italicam aut Belgicam scire exoptat, à me Ch. de Switerda, Equite Brandenburgico, commendato Regi nostro Guilielmo, (vel à meo Coadjutore) eas addiscere potest, quàm optimè quàmque brevissimè, atque adeo, ut unius anni spatio non modo Classicos Authores leviores explicandi, sed & cum quocunque Latine Sermocinandi capax sit. Habitat in Vico vulgò vocato Strand, in Arundel-street, prope Leonem album: Docet quoque diebus Martis & Jovis in Bow-Church-yard, apud Dominum Hartman. Blaterones qui virulentis obtreccionibus a tergo me laniant, & nihil audent in os dicere, non pluris facio, quanti culicem Elephas Indicus. Non meis viribus acceptum, sed bonorum Omnium largitori Deo refero, cujus eximia in me benignitate profluxit hæc tam rara felicitas, ut in docendis discipulis meis omnia mihi tam facilia & jucunda videantur.*

A Proposal of Skill in Teaching Noble-men and Gentlemen's Children of Eight or Nine Years of Age to speak Latin and French fluently, and that truly and properly, according to Grammar-Rules, in two Year time.

*MR. Switerda (recommended by our Gracious King)* professes a very short and easie method, by which Noble-men and Gentlemen's Children may learn to speak Latin and French, fluently, and that truly and properly, according to Grammar-Rules, and to explain any Author in two Years time, and Ladies and Gentlemen of Age in one Year. If that any Nobleman would take two Children, whose Capacities are not disproportionale, and send one beyond Sea, and leave to the above-named Switerda the other, and he is content to lose 20 l. if he makes not a greater and more visible Improvement of the Latin Tongue in 3 Months than any Gentlemen what-soever. He Teacheth Mondays, Wednesdays and Frydays, at his House in Arundel-street in the Strand, next to the White Lyon; and the other days in Bow-Church-yard, nigh the Writing-School, where you may have Grammatical and Historical Cards. And further, the said Mr. Switerda (without prejudice to the Proposal aforesaid, and the probable Success that may attend the same) is ready to order his Affairs so, as to put himself in the Quality of a Governour for a Noble-man's Son, when desired.

IN *Grays-Inn-lane* in *Plow-yard*, the third Door, lives Dr *Thomas Kirleus*, a Collegiate Physician, and Sworn Physician in Ordinary to King *Charles* the Second, until his death; who with a Drink and Pill (hindring no Business) undertakes to Cure any Ulcers, Sores, Swellings in the Nose, Face, or other parts; Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Leprosies, and Venereal Disease, expecting nothing until the Cure be finished: Of the last he hath cured many hundreds in this City, many of them after fluxing, which carries the evil from the Lower Parts to the Head, and so destroys many. The Drink is 3 s. the Quart, the Pill 1 s. a Box, with Directions; a better Purger than which was never given, for they cleanse the Body of all Impurities, which are the causes of Dropsies, Gouts, Scurvies, Stone or Gravel, Pains in the Head, and other parts. With another Drink at 1 s. 6 d. a Quart. He cures all Fevers and hot Distempers without Bleeding, except in few Bodies. He gives his Opinion to all that writes or comes for nothing.

LONDON, Printed for *John Duntton* at the Raven in the Poultry, 1693.